

### **REMARKS**

Claims 1, 2, 5, and 9-13 are now pending in the application. By this Paper, Claim 1 has been amended, Claim 13 has been added, and Claims 6 and 7 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein. The basis for the foregoing amendments and new claim can be found throughout the specification, claims, and drawings originally filed. No new matter has been added. The preceding amendments and the following remarks are believed to be fully responsive to the outstanding Office Action and are believed to place the application in condition for allowance. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejections in view of the amendments and remarks contained herein.

### **REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103**

Claims 1-2, 5-7, and 9-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Spencer et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,619,689) in view of Hirai et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 5,945,185).

Claims 11-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Spencer et al. and Hirai et al. as applied to Claim 1 above, and further in view of Conlee et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,758,493).

These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Applicants respectfully submit that the cited art of record fails to teach or suggest a method of making an air bag including blow moulding a plastic comprising acrylonitrile-butadiene-styrene (ABS) and polycarbonate (PC) that comprise one-hundred (100) weight percent of the plastic to form the air bag.

Spencer discloses an inflatable knee bolster (232) including a front wall (238) and a body portion (240). See Spencer at Col. 4, Ins. 51-56, and Figures 12-14. Spencer notes that the front wall (238) and body portion (240) of the knee bolster (232) are injection moulded polymers such as, for example, polypropylenes, polycarbonates, polyurethanes, and other suitable thermoplastic materials. See Spencer at Col. 6, In. 67, through Col. 7, Ins. 1-4.

Hirai discloses an air bag made of thermoplastic polyurethane resin, whereby the silicone modified thermoplastic polyurethane resin is formed by reacting polyol, polyisocyanate, polysiloxane, and, if necessary, a chain extender. See Hirai at Col. 3, Ins. 36-48, and Col. 4, Ins. 35-38. The polyol of the silicone modified thermoplastic polyurethane resin may be polyester polyol, polyether polyol, polycarbonate polyol, and polylactone polyol. See Hirai at Col. 4, Ins. 39-43. Hirai discloses that the silicone modified thermoplastic polyurethane resin may blend with one or more resins such as, for example, a styrene resin (PS, HIPS, AS, ABS, AES). See Hirai at Col. 5, Ins. 41-48.

While Spencer discloses use of a polycarbonate generally and Hirai discloses combining a silicone modified thermoplastic polyurethane resin with a styrene resin, neither reference discloses an air bag comprising acrylonitrile-butadiene-styrene (ABS) and polycarbonate (PC) that comprise one-hundred (100) weight percent of the plastic used to form the air bag. For example, while the polyol used in forming the silicone modified thermoplastic polyurethane resin of Hirai may be a polycarbonate polyol, the polycarbonate polyol is reacted with polyisocyanate, polysiloxane, and a chain extender and, therefore, is not formed purely of a polycarbonate. As such, when the silicone modified thermoplastic polyurethane resin is blended with the styrene resin (ABS) of

Hirai, the resultant plastic is not a combination of only acrylonitrile-butadiene-styrene (ABS) and polycarbonate (PC), as recited by independent Claim 1.

Applicants further submit that one of ordinary skill in the art would not modify the silicone modified thermoplastic polyurethane resin of Hirai such that the polycarbonate polyol component of the silicone modified thermoplastic polyurethane resin is the sole component of the plastic, as Hirai is specifically directed to an air bag made of silicone modified thermoplastic polyurethane resin. See Hirai at the Abstract, Field of the Invention, and Col. 1, Ins. 63-67, for example. In other words, modifying the device of Hirai such that the plastic is solely formed from a polycarbonate polyol is contrary to the disclosure of Hirai, as an air bag formed solely from a polycarbonate polyol would not include a silicone modified thermoplastic polyurethane resin—the intended feature of Hirai.

In light of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that independent Claim 1, as well as Claims 2, 5, and 9-12, dependent therefrom, are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested.

#### **NEW CLAIMS**

New Claim 13 is added for consideration. New Claim 13 is believed to be in condition for allowance in light of the foregoing remarks.

## **CONCLUSION**

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action and the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

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